



The
Source

Utica, Shelby Twp. Edition

SourceNewspapers.com 

December 1, 2013

41A District Court not moving to Macomb Township

Grand opening of Chief Gene Shepherd Park planned for spring

By **SEAN DELANEY**
Source Staff Writer

Shelby Township residents will have more to celebrate this spring than the return of warmer weather, as Chief Gene Shepherd Park will officially open to the public.

“People are using it already, but there are still a few more things we want to finish before the grand opening,” said Treasurer Michael Flynn. “Unfortunately, the weather has been a big foe.”

Located on 23 Mile Road, east of Dequindre Road, the park is named in memory of the township’s late fire chief, who passed away in May 2012 after a long battle with cancer.

“Chief Shepherd was so universally well-respected,” Flynn said when officials broke ground on the project in June.

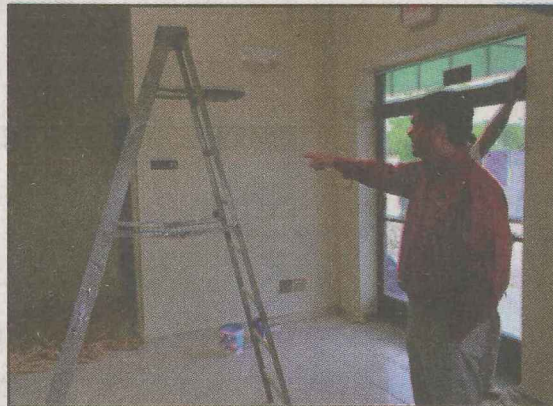
“This is a park for the people, but it’s also a way to remember our friend and colleague. I think, hopefully, it’s a fitting tribute to him.”

When it’s completed, the park will feature a variety of popular amenities, including two tennis courts, two sand volleyball courts, two horseshoe pits, two bocce ball courts, one soccer field, asphalt walking path and a large pavilion with electricity

“It’s coming along,” Flynn said. “We planned to paint the clubhouse red this week, but the weather hasn’t been cooperating.”

When warmer temperatures return, Flynn said the township also plans to resurface and stripe the parking lot, and adhere a large fire truck decal on the clubhouse’s garage door.

“While there have been some delays, I’m pleased to say that



Shelby Township Treasurer Michael Flynn says work on Chief Gene Shepherd Park will wrap up in the spring.

Source photo/
Sean Delaney

we’re coming in about \$5,000 under budget,” Flynn said. “I think by the time we’re ready to open it, Chief Gene Shepherd Park will be a fitting tribute to our respected friend and colleague.”

The township has been documenting every facet of the construction through a photo

album titled “Construction of Chief Gene Shepherd Park,” which is available for viewing on the Charter Township of Shelby Facebook page.

Contact Sean Delaney at 586-323-8127 or sean.delaney@advisorsource.com. Follow him on Twitter @sdelaney81 or on Facebook at Sean Delaney.